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Futago Scans
http://futagoscans.livejournal.com

I don't have time to help I'm a busy person
HEY
WAAH
STOP COMPLAINING ABOUT NO NEW CHAPTERS!
BUT IF YOU COULD HELP YOU COULD SEE THE NEXT CHAPTER EARLIER
sigh
HE'LL NEVER HELP, BUT YOU CAN. FUTARO SCANS NEEDS TYPESETTERS AND CLEANERS
IT ISN'T THAT HARD!
AND WE COULD TRAIN YOU
THAT SOUNDS HARD AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO ANY OF THOSE THINGS IS THERE SOMETHING EASY I COULD DO INSTEAD?
THAT'S RIGHT!

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其ノ十二

KASHIWAGI -SAN!
A SERVANT IN THE PALACE,
VENE-RABLE KASHI-WAGI
!
STEP
STEP
twitch

STEP
STEP
STEP
HIDE
STEP
STEP
.....
THAT DAY, FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FOLDING SCREEN,
thump
thump
I SAW YOU FALL DOWN
ABSENTLY
REALLY?
STEP
SIGH
THANK YOU.
YOU SAVED ME WHEN YOU PICKED IT UP!
.....

IF ROKUOUIN-NO-MIYA-SAMA HAD PICKED THIS UP,
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?
B-BUT IT WAS GIVEN TO ME BY HER MAJESTY...
I REMEMBER THIS RING
IT WAS GIVEN TO HER MAJESTY BY MIYA-SAMA TO CELEBRATE THEIR ENGAGEMENT.
I KNOW THAT HER MAJESTY FAVORS YOU.
BUT, I MUST SAY, AS SOMEONE WHO HAS SEEN MANY THINGS IN THE PALACE,
HAVING THAT RING HERE IN THE PALACE IS DANGEROUS.

I DO NOT THINK MIYA-SAMA WOULD LET YOU KEEP IT.
THIS TIME, WHEN YOU DROPPED IT IN THE PALACE,
YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THIS
IT IS AN UNSUITABLE THING FOR YOUR POSI-TION. YOU WILL DESTROY YOURSELF
IT WOULD BE BEST TO RETURN IT TO HER MAJESTY.
MISONO.
MISONO!
pitter patter

Alexei!
Pin him down!!
CROWN PRINCE ALEXEI IS-
WE MUST QUICKLY TELL HER MAJESTY!
CHATTER
A RUFFIAN CUT AT HIM! HE'S INJURED!

THIS STRANGE REPORT RUSHED OVER A THOUSAND MILES.
Extra!
Extra!
號外
The Russian Crown Prince was attacked during his visit as a state guest!
FORTUNATELY THE PRINCE ONLY RECEIVED A MINOR INJURY.
THE ARRESTED MAN TESTIFIED, "IT WAS AN ATTACK TO PREVENT THE PRINCE'S FUTURE AGGRESSIONS."
STUPID!
THE CAPITAL WAS ENVELOPED IN SURPRISE AND FEAR.
BUT, FROM THIS, PERHAPS...
I'm so busy.
WAR WITH RUSSIA!?

I'm home.
KIMIYORI!
ARE WE REALLY GOING TO WAR?
YOUNG MASTER
Brother
Wah!
Wah!
EVERYONE SAYS THE ANGRY RUSSIAN EMPEROR IS GOING TO ATTACK US IN REVENGE!
What is happening~
THIS IS ONLY AN UNOFFICAL NEWSPAPER
HER MAJESTY APOLOGIZED WHEN SHE VISITED HIM. PRINCE ALEXEI ALSO EXPRESSED GRATITUDE
THAT'S..
AN ORDER TO RETURN HOME!?

NO, THEY'LL SEE IT AS SOMETHING SERIOUS HAPPENING IN A FAR AWAY FOREIGN COUNTRY.
HE SAYS THAT IT IS A MINOR INJURY, BUT HE SHOULD HURRY HOME SO THE TSAR CAN SEE HIM.
THE CROWN PRINCE'S PARTY HAS ALREADY MOVED THEIR WARSHIP. THEY ARE WAITING TO SET SAIL.
CHATTER
THEY'RE MOVING QUICKLY...
SHOULD WE DETAIN THEM, YOUR MAJESTY?
A PRUDENT IMPERIAL DECISION.
BUT WE SHOULD AT LEAST GIVE HIM A FAREWELL DINNER PARTY.
OH! THAT'S RIGHT!
A FAREWELL DINNER PARTY AT THE PALACE?

ALEXEI IS STILL RECOVE-RING!
AT LEAST ASK PRINCE ALEXEI
REFUSE IT.
PRINCE GEORGY!
FOR NOW, AS MY BROTHER'S REPRESEN-TATIVE,
I WILL TAKE CHARGE OF EVERY-THING!
.....
OKAY...
I'LL SHOW THEM HOW WELL I CAN REPRESENT ALEXEI.
THE CHAMBER-LAINS ARE IN AWE OF MY RESOLUTE ATTITUDE

YOU'RE IN A AWFULLY GOOD MOOD, GEORGY.
IT'S NOTHING IN PARTICULAR I'M RELIEVED YOU DECIDED TO GO HOME.
EH?
...
HOW ARE YOU FEELING, ALEXEI?
FATHER WOULD APPROVE!
AND I HAVEN'T GOTTEN CLOSE TO THE EMPEROR.
I STILL HAVEN'T SEEN MUCH OF THIS COUNTRY.
YOU SENT MOTHER THAT EXAGGERATED TELEGRAM.
Alexei
Oh no!
LEAVE IT TO ME
IN THAT CASE, ALEXEI.
.....
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GIVE HER A LONG FAREWELL.

IN SUMMARY,
PRINCE ALEXEI WANTS TO WAIT BEFORE LEAVING TO RECUPERATE
SO, THERE WON'T BE A FAREWELL PARTY AT THE PALACE
HE HAS REQUESTED HER MAJESTY'S PRESENCE ON THE RUSSIAN WARSHIP WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF ATTENDANTS
CHATTER
IN THIS WAY, THE RUSSIAN WARSHIP SENT NOTICE OF THEIR DEPARTURE THE INVITATION
SENT THE PALACE INTO AN UPROAR FOR A SECOND TIME

YOUR MAJESTY!
UNDER-STOOD
WE SHALL ACCEPT
KID-NAPPED?
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT RUSSIAN SOLDIERS WOULD BE ON BOARD A RUSSIAN WARSHIP
IT IS POSSIGLE THAT THEY ARE PLANNING REVENGE FOR THE CROWN PRINCE'S INJURY IF THAT'S THE CASE
COULDN'T HER MAJESTY BE KIDNAPPED ON THAT WAR-SHIP?
THE CHAMBER-LAINS AND OFFICERS ARE MERELY EXPRESSING THEIR WORRY
WITH SO FEW PEOPLE TO ACCOMPANY YOU, IF SOME-THING SHOULD HAPPEN...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
H'S
TELL ME

IT WOULD MEAN WAR.
PLEASE DON'T TAKE OFFENSE
I WANT TO PROTECT HER MAJESTY.
.....
I AM A CLOSE ACQUAINTANCE OF THE RUSSIANS. IF IT COMES DOWN TO IT, I CAN DO SOMETHING.
I WILL GO AS HER MAJESTY'S REPRESENTATIVE.
OOOH
WHAT A BOLD DECISION, ROKUJOUIN-NO-MIYA-SAMA!

.....
IT-
IT'S ALRIGHT, YOUR MAJESTY.
IF IT'S ROKUJOUIN-NO-MIYA-SAMA, SURELY HE WILL HANDLE THIS WELL-
Where is she.
YOUR MAJESTY!?
TURN
I'M GOING TO THE CROWN PRINCE'S WARSHIP!
STEP ASIDE, MISONO!

PUSH
PUSH
Wahh
SHUT UP AND LET ME THROUGH!
YOU CAN'T, YOUR MAJESTY!
MISONO!
LISTEN TO MY COMMAND...
CLACK
CLACK
ARE YOU... GOING TO SAY THE SAME THINGS AS MIYA?!
grab
YOU CAN'T GO!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO GO THERE!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, YOUR MAJESTY!

I, AND MIYA-SAMA
IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO DANGER,
I CANNOT OBEY YOUR COMMAND!
CANNOT EXCHANGE OURSELVES FOR YOU!
IT WILL BE DANGEROUS IF I DON'T GO.
.....
THAT'S NOT IT.
THAT'S NOT IT, MISONO...

PRINCE ALEXEI WAS FORGIVING THIS TIME.
"IT'S ONLY A LIGHT WOUND."
"THERE ARE DANGEROUS PEOPLE IN EVERY COUNTRY. IT DOES NOT CHANGE MY GOODWILL TOWARDS YOUR NATION."
BUT,
THE CROWN PRINCE'S RETAINERS WILL WHISPER IN DOUBT.
IT WILL SPREAD TO THE COMMON PEOPLE.
SO, I MUST GO!
I MUST ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO THE RUSSIAN WARSHIP. THEIR RETURN HOME MUST BE PEACEFUL.
THAT WAY, BOTH COUNTRIES WILL BE AT EASE.
NO ONE ELSE CAN DO THIS FOR ME!

IT'S SHAMEFUL OF ME TO TAKE THIS OUT ON YOU.
COUGH
FOR-GIVE ME,
YOUR MAJESTY...
EVEN IF I DON'T PASS THROUGH THOSE DOORS, EVEN IF YOU DON'T BECOME MY SUBSTITUTE, IT'S ALRIGHT
MISONO,
BE MY STRENGTH!

IT'S AN EMERGENCY IMPERIAL COUNCIL
STEP
WHAT DID YOU SAY AGAIN ABOUT THE RUSSIANS?
PATTER PATTER
THE EMPEROR
SLIDE
HER... HER MAJESTY!?
WHAT?

THANK YOU FOR ASSEMBLING QUICKLY, EVERYONE
HER MAJESTY HAS ARRIVED
!
CHATTER
I THOUGHT I WOULD ACCEPT THE RUSSIAN WARSHIP'S DINNER PARTY INVITATION
DOES ANYONE HAVE A DIFFERENT OPINION?

CHATTER
CHATTER
THE WORLD WOULD PROBABLY CRITICIZE THEM AS A SAVAGE NATION
IF THEY DID ANY-THING,
THE RUSSIAN SOLDIERS PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE UNREA-SONABLE
LOOKS BEAUTIFUL.
BUT HER MAJESTY
STEP
HER MAJESTY HAS DECIDED TO VISIT THE WARSHIP.

IT WAS... HER MAJESTY'S CHOICE.
YOU WILL BE THE ATTENDANT WHO HOLDS HER HEM. WAS THAT ALSO HER MAJESTY'S CHOICE?
THIS WAS PROBABLY YOUR SUGGESTION.
MISONO.
STEP
YOU MUST BE A TRULY GREAT RETAINER,
WILLINGLY ACCOMPANYING THE EMPEROR TO SUCH DANGEROUS PLACES

"IT IS AN UNSUITABLE THING FOR YOUR POSITION."
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO HER, YOU'LL BE BANISHED FROM THE PALACE!
"YOU WILL DESTROY YOURSELF."
MISONO!
THOSE WORDS, ROKUOUIN-NO-MIYA-SAMA, I-

THEY ACCEPTED THE INVITATION!?
THE EMPEROR SAID SHE WOULD COME TO THE SHIP?
IS THIS TRUE? WITH ONLY HER INTERPRETER, LADIES-IN-WAITING, AND THE BOY WHO HOLDS HER HEM!?
GEORGY.
gasp
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I DION'T HEAR ANY-THING ABOUT THIS BEFORE
I JUST THOUGHT I SHOULDN'T WORRY YOU..
ALEXEI! THIS IS...
SQUEEZE
...!

I'LL REPORT ALL OF YOUR ACTIONS TO FATHER.
IT WILL BE FATHER WHO WILL PUNISH YOU, NOT ME.
ALEXEI...
Serves you right!
FWOOSH
SNIFF
SNIFF
SOB
STOP CRYING, SUKE.

EVEN THOUGH YOU ALWAYS WANTED ME TO WEAR THIS,
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ADMIRE IT?
sob
YES...
YOUR MAKEUP WILL RUN BEFORE WE GET TO THE WARSHIP.
FWOOSH FWOOSH
BUT... I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOUR MA-JESTY...
SNIFF
SNIFF
AHHH-HHH!
JOLT
WHAT IS IT, HEAD LADY?
I FORGOT YOUR RING, YOUR MAJESTY!
What have I done?
RING?
I DON'T NEED IT SINCE I'M WEARING GLOVES
IT'S MANNERLY TO SHOW YOUR FINGERTIPS AT MEALTIMES!
Hmm

It's alright. You can touch up your makeup
THE RING..
I have it.
thump thump
"IT WOULD BE BEST TO RETURN IT TO HER MAJESTY."
IF YOU ARE GOING TO RETURN IT, SHOULDN'T IT BE NOW, KIMIYORI?
IT'S UNSUITABLE FOR A RETAINER TO POSSESS
"YOU MUST BE A TRULY GREAT RETAINER..."

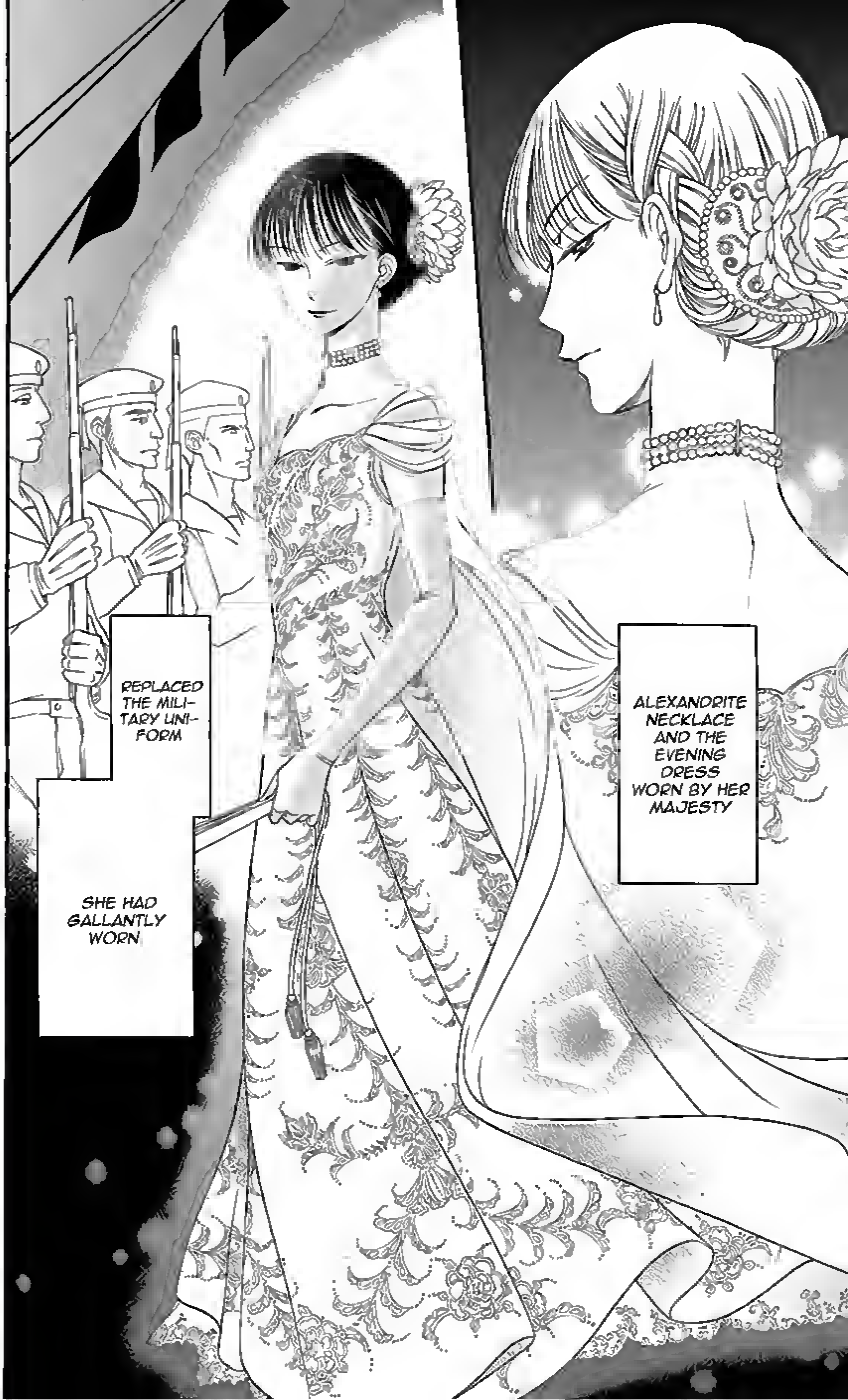
THE WAY MIYA-SAMA SAID IT,
SHOULD I BECOME A RETAINER
thump
WHO STOPS HER MAJESTY FROM GOING TOO FAR?
NOW, I SHOULD-
SUKE WAS WORRIED.
BUT I'M...
FWOOSH
I'M STILL GOING DESPITE MY OWN WISHES.
PITIFUL.

YOUR MAJESTY
PLEASE USE THIS RING.

DIDN'T I GIVE THIS TO YOU A LONG TIME AGO?
I'M NOT RETURNING IT TO YOU.
THE TRUTH IS, THIS RING WAS TAKEN BY MY SISTER, AND STOLEN BY RON...
Kimi-chan
It's mine
RON
SISTER
HEHEHE
AND I DROPPED IT IN THE PALACE WHEN I FELL DOWN
KASHIWAGI
Thank you
I found this
You didn't like it
I'm sorry
EVEN SO!
THIS WONDEROUS RING KEPT RETURNING TO MY HANDS

IF YOUR MAJESTY WEARS THIS RING,
SURELY YOU WOULD ALSO RETURN TO ME SAFELY!
U-HUH!
GRIP
I WILL WAIT FOR ITS RETURN.

BOOM
THE ROARING OF THE TWENTY-ONE GUN SALUTE
Enough.
So noisy.
EVEN NOW I REMEMBER IT VIVIDLY.
BOOM
!
THE WAY SHE APPEARED ON THE RUSSIAN SHIP
WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE TIMES IN THE PALACE
BOOM
THE GLITTERING
BOOM


ALEXANDRITE NECKLACE AND THE EVENING DRESS WORN BY HER MAJESTY
REPLACED THE MILITARY UNIFORM
SHE HAD GALLANTLY WORN

I'M RELIEVED. THE EMPEROR AND ALEXEI ARE HAVING A PLEASANT CHAT.
?
I don't know Russian
PRINCE GEORGY!
AS THE CROWN PRINCE, ALEXEI IS TRUSTED BY FATHER AND THE RETAINERS.
I'M DIFFERENT I CAN'T BE SAVED FROM MY MALICIOUSNESS.
SO... I MEAN...

I WAS WRONG TO SAY WHAT I SAID BEFORE!
I UNDER-STOOD HIS WORDS-
Is he apologizing?
NO, SINCE NEITHER OF US CAN UNDER-STAND EACH OTHER,
WE ARE ABLE TO EXPRESS OUR TRUE FEELINGS
FWOOSH
I WAS
ALSO RUDE TO YOUR HIGH-NESS.
BECAUSE I WAS IN AWE OF HER MAJESTY
I HAD FORGOTTEN MY POSITION AS A RETAINER.
I-
GRIP

SAID I WANTED TO BECOME A HER MAJESTY'S CAGE
I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO ENTER THAT CAGE!
FWOOSH
.....

What is he saying?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU AT ALL.
Isn't that right?
GEORGY.
COME AND GREET HER MAJESTY.
PRINCE GEORGY,
I HOPE YOU WILL FORGIVE ME FOR CAU-SING YOU TO WORRY
NO, NOT AT ALL!
BLUSH
Interested

BUT, YOUR MAJESTY,
YOUR WORDS OF APOLOGY ARE MORE THAN ENOUGH
PLEASE, IN THIS PLACE..
HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR THOUGHTS
ON THE QUESTION I ASKED AT TENCHOUSETSU ABOUT YOUR FUTURE?
?

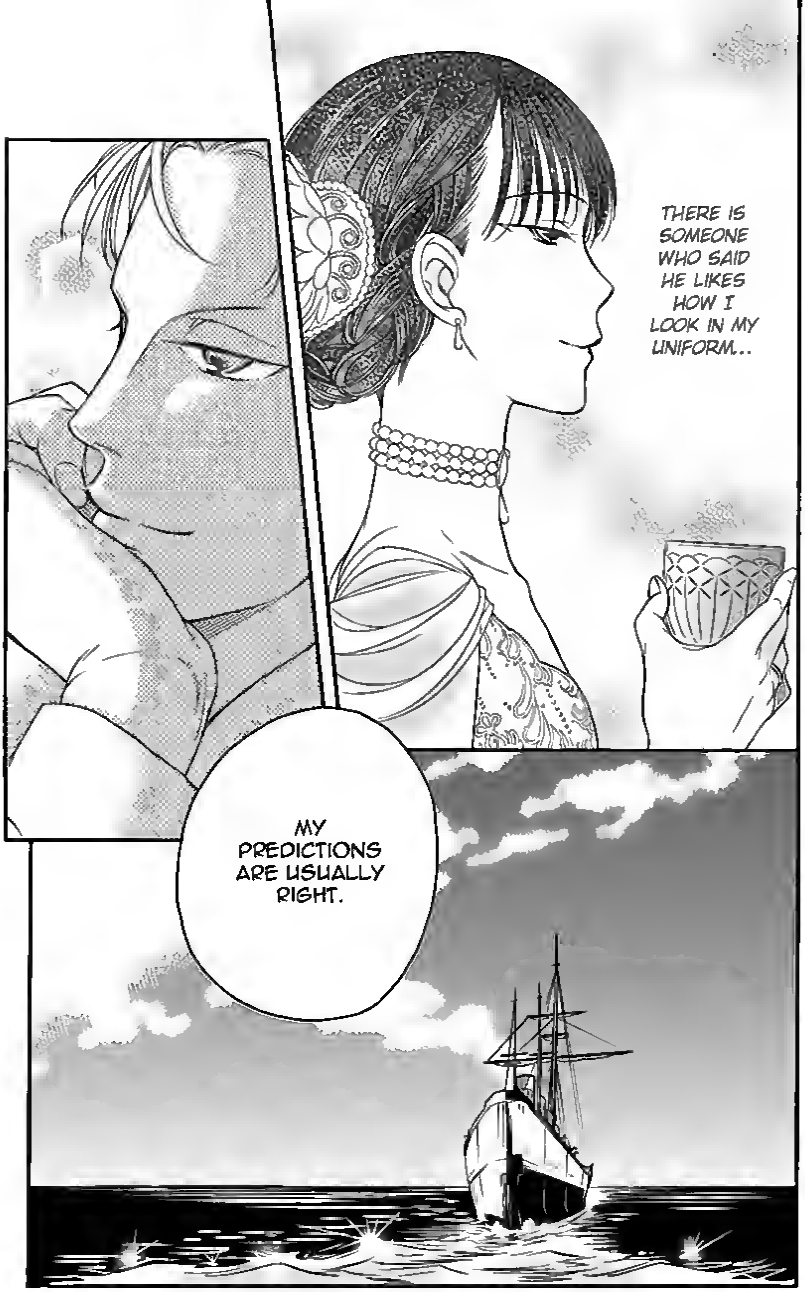
WILL I STILL BE ABLE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR COUNTRY SOON?
CHATTER
!

.....
IT WAS A JOKE
TEHEE
PRINCE ALEXEI
sigh
YOUR MAJESTY
YOU SHOULD BECOME A DIPLOMAT IN THE FUTURE
sigh
Alexei!
Gahh
A DIPLOMAT?

YOU ARE A WOMAN OF YOUR OWN OPINIONS
AND YOU HAVE ENOUGH COURAGE TO COME HERE
IN THE FUTURE, WHEN YOU ABDICATE, GO OUT INTO THE WORLD INSTEAD OF GOING INTO SECLUSION
SURELY YOU CAN HELP YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR COUNTRY
SO, WITHOUT FAIL,
PLEASE VISIT MY COUNTRY.

YES.
WOULD THOSE WORDS BE A PREDIC-TION THAT WOULD GUIDE HER MAJESTY?
THE ANSWER WOULD ONLY BE KNOWN FAR IN THE FUTURE

THERE WAS ONE THING I DIDN'T KNOW.
THAT OCCASION WAS
THE FIRST AND ONLY TIME HER MAJESTY NEEDED TO WEAR A DRESS.
I GOT THAT FEELING SOMEHOW, WHILE SPEAKING TO HER
I THOUGHT SHE WOULDN'T WEAR THEM ANYMORE
WHAT? SINCE IT SUITS HER, SHE SHOULD WEAR IT.
How wasteful


THERE IS SOMEONE WHO SAID HE LIKES HOW I LOOK IN MY UNIFORM...
MY PREDICTIONS ARE USUALLY RIGHT.